

Response
Application No. 10/734,204
Attorney Docket No. 032177

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4-7 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 5, 6 and 7 have been amended and claim 4 has been cancelled. No new matter has been added. It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated October 16, 2007.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication in item 12 of the Action that claim 4 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form to include the features of its base and intervening claims.

It is respectfully submitted that claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable features of claim 4, and therefore, it is believed that claim 1 and its dependent claims 2, 5 and 6 are now allowable. Moreover, independent claim 7 has also been amended to include the allowable features of claim 4. As such, it is submitted that all of the remaining pending claims 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7 are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

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If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TEB', is written over the firm name.

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TEB/nrp